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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Korea

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SUBJECT

INFO.

Soviet Military Bases near Najin

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- Two kilometers west of the city of Najin (130-15,42-10), North Hangyong Province, a fortress and underground warehouse is maintained by the Soviets on a mountain named Mang-san (). This base was originally constructed by the Japanese for use by an anti-aircraft unit, but the Soviets have strengthened its exterior by the addition of three-inch steel plates. In the center of the mountain is an underground hangar; in addition there are approximately 60 tunnels (10 meters wide and more than 30 meters long) which lead into the interior.
- Including some female soldiers there are approximately 500 Soviets stationed at the base and they are housed in seven billets. There are approximately 700 convict laborers who are also working at the base and they are quartered at a large boarding house. All of these convict-laborers are serving sentences of more than three years and are to be returned to the USSR when the work at Mang-san is completed.
- 3. The entire base is enclosed by a charged wire fence. The boarding house occupied by the convict-laborers is about two kilometers from the mountain and is also enclosed by a charged wire fence. Pine trees have been planted on the top of Mang-san and wooden Korean houses, which have remained unoccupied, have been constructed to camouflage the base from airplane observation.
- In November 1949, 40 airplanes were stored in the hangar, in addition to 20 or 30 tanks, but the number of airplanes was increased in February 1950 by the arrival of 100 additional airplanes from the USSR.* On 15 November 38 additional tanks were unloaded from a Soviet transport ship from Vladivostok. These tanks were immediately transferred to the underground warehouse. The supply of weapons and ammunition at the base increased during November, when Soviet transport ships arrived at the port of Najin once every three days with weapons for storage at Mang-san. ** The trucks used to transport these supplies from Najin to Mang-san were half United States-made CM models and half Japanese-made models,

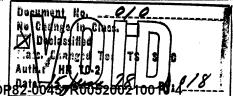
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- 5. During the arrival of these ships, local policemen and soldiers of the People's Army guarded the outer areas of the port of Najin. Members of the Soviet detachment guarded the inner areas of the port. All traffic was thus prevented from entering or leaving the harbor until the unloading had been completed.
- 6. The largest North Korean naval base is west of Najin, at Pangjin (approximately 130-10, 42-10), where three South Korean patrol boats, including patrol boat Number 508, are being detained.

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Comment. Since the total number of airplanes possessed by the North Korean Air Force has been previously reported to be between 113 and 180, this number appears excessive.

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Comment. For another account of Soviet ships at the port of Najin, see 25X1A

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